LISTING OF CLAIMS

1 - 115. Canceled.

116.   **(Currently Amended)**   A method comprising:

~~receiving a first table and a second table, in a computer system;~~

receiving input data, in a computer system, wherein

        the input data comprises a query, a first table, and a second table;

generating, using a processor of the computer system, a set of SQL statements to

        query the first table and the second table, wherein

        the set of SQL statements are based, at least in part, upon the query,

        the first table and the second table are stored in a computer-readable

                storage medium, [[and]]

        the generating uses a relationship between the first table and the second

                table to construct the set of SQL statements, and

        the set of SQL statements comprises SQL statements other than a

                statement that joins the first and second tables;

querying the first table using the set of SQL statements to produce a first result

        set, wherein

        the querying the first table is performed using the processor;

querying the second table using the set of SQL statements to produce a second

        result set, wherein

        the querying the second table is performed using the processor, and

        the querying the first table and the querying the second table are

                performed without joining the first table and the second table;

                [[and]]

joining, using the processor, the first result set and the second result set to produce

        a third result set**; and**

returning the third result set, in response to the receiving the input data.

117.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 116 wherein the relationship comprises:

a parent/child relationship between the first and second tables, wherein

  one of the first and second tables is a parent table, and

  if the first table is the parent table, the second table is a child table, and

  if the second table is the parent table, the first table is the child table.

118.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 117 further comprising:

querying the parent table using the set of SQL statements to produce the first

  result set; and

using the first result set in constructing a second set of SQL statements to query

  the child table, wherein

  the second set of SQL statements comprises SQL statements other than a

    second statement that joins the second table to another table.

119.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 118 further comprising:

querying the child table using the second set of SQL statements to produce the

  second result set.

120.   **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 119 **wherein**

the third result set depends on the querying the first table and the querying

  the second table.

~~further comprising: returning the third result set as a result of the query of~~

~~the first and second tables.~~

121.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 118 wherein

the second set of SQL statements comprises:

  a query statement for selecting a record having a value of a foreign key

    field of the second table equal to a value of a target key field in the

    first result set.

122.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 116 further comprising:
using the first result set in constructing a second set of SQL statements to query
        the second table, wherein
        the second set of SQL statements comprises SQL statements other than a
                second statement that joins the second table to another table.

123.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 122 further comprising:
querying the second table using the second set of SQL statements to produce the
        second result set.

124.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 123 further comprising:
returning the third result set as a result of the query of the first and second tables.

125.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 122 wherein the second set
        of SQL statements comprises:
a query statement for selecting a record having a value of a foreign key field of
        the second table equal to a value of a target key field in the first result set.

126.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 116 further comprising:
obtaining a search specification for the query of the first and second tables,
        wherein
        the set of SQL statements comprises a query statement to select a record
                from at least one of the first and second tables if the record
                satisfies the search specification.

127.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 126 further comprising:
executing the set of SQL statements to produce the third result set; and
returning the third result set in response to the search specification.

128.   **(Currently Amended)**   A system comprising:

a processor;

a memory unit coupled to the processor;

receiving means for receiving ~~a first table and a second table~~ **input data,**

> **wherein**

> **the input data comprises a query, a first table, and a second table**;

generating means for generating a set of SQL statements to query the first table

> and the second table, wherein

> **the set of SQL statements are based, at least in part, upon the query,**

> the generating means uses a relationship between the first table and the

> > second table to construct the set of SQL statements, and

> the set of SQL statements comprise SQL statements other than a statement

> > that joins the first and second tables;

determining means for determining if a parent/child relationship exists between

> the first and second tables;

first querying means for querying the first table using the set of SQL statements to

> produce a first result set;

second querying means for querying the second table using the set of SQL

> statements to produce a second result set, wherein

> the querying the first table and the querying the second table are

> > performed without joining the first table and the second table;

> > [[and]]

joining means for joining the first result set and the second result set to produce a

> third result set, wherein

> the generating means, the determining means, the first querying means,

> > the second querying means and the joining means reside in the

> > memory unit**; and**

returning means for returning the third result set, in response to receiving

> **the input data**.

129.　(Previously Presented)　The system of claim 128 further comprising:

parent table determining means for determining if one of the first and second

　　　　tables is a table, if the parent/child relationship exists, and configured to

　　　　indicate

　　　　　　if the first table is the parent table, that the second table is a child table,

　　　　　　　　and

　　　　　　if the second table is the parent table, that the first table is the child table,

　　　　　　　　wherein

　　　　the parent table resides in the memory unit.

130.　(Previously Presented)　The system of claim 129 further comprising:

querying means for querying the parent table using the set of SQL statements to

　　　　produce the first result set; and

using means for using the first result set in constructing a second set of SQL

　　　　statements to query the child table, wherein

　　　　　　the second set of SQL statements comprises SQL statements other than a

　　　　　　　　second statement that joins the second table to another table, and

　　　　　　the querying means and the using means reside in the memory unit.

131.　(Previously Presented)　The system of claim 130 wherein

the second querying means is configured to query the child table using the second

　　　　set of SQL statements to produce the second result set.

132.　(**Currently Amended**)　The system of claim 131 **wherein**

the result depends on the querying the first table and the querying the

　　　　second table.

~~further comprising: returning means for returning the third result set as a~~

~~result of the query of the first and second tables, wherein~~

　　　　~~the returning means resides in the memory unit.~~

133.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 130 wherein the second set of SQL statements comprises:

> a query statement for selecting a record having a value of a foreign key
>> field of the second table equal to a value of a target key field in the
>> first result set.

134.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 128 further comprising: using means for using the first result set in constructing a second set of SQL

> statements to query the second table, wherein
> the second set of SQL statements comprises SQL statements other than a
>> second statement that joins the second table to another table, and
> said using means resides in the memory unit.

135.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 128 further comprising: obtaining means for obtaining a search specification for the query of the first and

> second tables, wherein
> the set of SQL statements comprises a query statement to select a record
>> from at least one of the first and second tables if the record
>> satisfies the search specification, and
> said obtaining means resides in the memory unit.

136.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 135 further comprising: executing means for executing the set of SQL statements to produce the third

> result set; and

returning means for returning the third result set in response to the search

> specification, wherein
> said the executing means and the returning means reside in the memory
>> unit.

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137.   (**Currently Amended**)   A computer program product comprising:

receiving instructions to receive ~~a first table and a second table~~ **input data,**

> **wherein**

> **the input data comprises a query, a first table, and a second table;**

generating instructions to generate a set of SQL statements to query the first table

> and the second table, wherein

>> **the set of SQL statements are based, at least in part, upon the query,**

>> the generating instructions are configured to use a relationship between the

>>> first table and the second table, and

>> the set of SQL statements comprises SQL statements other than a

>>> statement that joins the first and second tables; and

first querying instructions to query the first table using the set of SQL statements

> to produce a first result set;

second querying instructions to query the second table using the set of SQL

> statements to produce a second result set, wherein

>> the querying instructions to the first table and the querying instructions to

>>> the second table are performed without joining the first table and

>>> the second table; **[[and]]**

joining instructions to join the first result set and the second result set to produce a

> third result set;

returning instructions to return the third result set, in response to receiving

> **the input data; and**

a computer-readable storage medium, wherein the computer program product is

> encoded in the computer readable storage media.

138. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 137 wherein the relationship comprises:

a parent/child relationship between the first and second tables, wherein

> one of the first and second tables is a parent table, and

> if the first table is the parent table, the second table is a child table, and

> if the second table is the parent table, the first table is the child table.

139. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 138 further comprising:

querying instructions configured to query the parent table using the set of SQL

> statements to produce the first result set; and

using instructions configured to use the first result set in constructing a second set

> of SQL statements to query the child table , wherein

>> the second set of SQL statements comprises SQL statements other than a

>>> second statement that joins the second table to another table.

140. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 139 wherein

the second querying instructions are configured to query the child table using the

> second set of SQL statements to produce the second result set.

141.   **(Currently Amended)** The computer program product of claim 140 **wherein**

the third result set depends on the querying the first table and the querying

> **the second table.**

~~further comprising: returning instructions configured to return the third~~

> ~~result set as a result of the query of the first and second tables.~~

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142.   (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 139 wherein

the second set of SQL statements comprises:

>   a query statement for selecting a record having a value of a foreign key
>
>>   field of the second table equal to a value of a target key field in the
>>
>>   first result set.

143.   (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 137 further comprising:

using instructions configured to use the first result set to construct a second set of

>   SQL statements to query the second table, wherein
>
>   the second set of SQL statements comprises SQL statements other than a
>
>>   second statement that joins the second table to another table.

144.   (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 137 further comprising:

obtaining instructions configured to obtain a search specification for the query of

>   the first and second tables, wherein
>
>   the set of SQL statements comprises a query statement to select a record
>
>>   from at least one of the first and second tables if the record
>>
>>   satisfies the search specification.

145.   (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 144 further comprising:

executing instructions configured to execute the set of SQL statements to produce

>   the third result set; and

returning instructions configured to return the third result set in response to the

>   search specification.

146.   (**Currently Amended**)   A computer system comprising:

a processor to execute instructions; and

a memory to store the instructions, wherein

the memory is coupled to the processor, and

the instructions comprise:

receiving instructions configured to receive ~~a first table and a~~

~~second table~~ **input data**, in a computer system**, wherein**

the input data comprises a query, a first table, and a

second table;

generating instructions configured to generate a set of SQL

statements to query the first table and the second table,

wherein

the set of SQL statements are based, at least in part,

upon the query,

the generating instructions use a relationship between a first

table and a second table to construct the set of SQL

statements, and

the set of SQL statements comprises SQL statements other

than a statement that joins the first and second

tables,

first querying instructions to query the first table using the set of

SQL statements to produce a first result set;

second querying instructions to query the second table using the set

of SQL statements to produce a second result set, wherein

the querying instructions to the first table and the querying

instructions to the second table are performed

without joining the first table and the second table;

[[and]]

joining instructions to join the first result set and the second result

set to produce a third result set**; and**

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returning instructions to return the third result set, in response to receiving the input data.

147. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 146 wherein the relationship comprises:

a parent/child relationship between the first and second tables, wherein

one of the first and second tables is a parent table, and

if the first table is the parent table, the second table is a child table, and

if the second table is the parent table, the first table is the child table.

148. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 147 wherein the instructions further comprise:

querying instructions configured to query the parent table using the set of SQL

statements to produce the first result set; and

using instructions configured to use the first result set in constructing a second set

of SQL statements to query the child table, wherein

the second set of SQL statements comprises SQL statements other than a

second statement that joins the second table to another table.

149. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 148 wherein

the second querying instructions are configured to query the child table

using the second set of SQL statements to produce the second

result set.

150. (Currently Amended) The computer system of claim 149 wherein **the third result set depends on the querying the first table and the querying the second table.**

~~the instructions further comprise:~~

~~returning instructions configured to return the third result set as a~~
~~result of the query of the first and second tables.~~

151.   (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 148 wherein the second set of SQL statements comprises:

>   a query statement for selecting a record having a value of a foreign key field of the second table equal to a value of a target key field in the first result set.

152.   (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 146 wherein the instructions further comprise:

using instructions configured to use the first result set to construct a second set of SQL statements to query the second table, wherein

>   the second set of SQL statements comprises SQL statements other than a second statement that joins the second table to another table.

153.   (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 146 wherein the instructions further comprise:

>   obtaining instructions configured to obtain a search specification for the query of the first and second tables, wherein
>
>>   the set of SQL statements comprises a query statement to select a record from at least one of the first and second tables if the record satisfies the search specification.

154.   (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 154 wherein the instructions further comprise:

>   executing instructions configured to execute the set of SQL statements to produce the third result set; and
>
>   returning instructions configured to return the third result set in response to the search specification.

155. (**Currently Amended**) A computer system comprising:

a processor;

a memory unit coupled to the processor;

a receiving module configured to receive ~~a first table and a second table~~ **input**

> **data, wherein**

> **the input data comprises a query, a first table, and a second table**;

a generating module configured to generate a set of SQL statements to query the

> first table and the second table, wherein

> **the set of SQL statements are based, at least in part, upon the query,**

> the generating module uses a relationship between a first table and a

>> second table, and

> the set of SQL statements comprises SQL statements other than a

>> statement that joins the first and second tables;

a first querying module configured to query the first table using the set of SQL

> statements to produce a first result set;

a second querying module configured to query the second table using the set of

> SQL statements to produce a second result set, wherein

> the query of the first table and the query of the second table are performed

>> without joining the first table and the second table; [[and]]

a joining module configured to join the first result set and the second result set to

> produce a third result set, wherein

> the generating module, the determining module, the first querying module,

>> the second querying module and the joining means reside in the

>> memory unit**; and**

a return output data module configured to return the third result set, in

> **response to receiving the input data**.

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156.   (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 155 wherein the relationship comprises:

a parent/child relationship between the first and second tables, wherein

> one of the first and second tables is a parent table, and if the first table is

>> the parent table, the second table is a child table, and if the second

>> table is the parent table, the first table is the child table, and

> the parent table resides in the memory unit.

157.   (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 156 further comprising:

a querying module configured to query the parent table using the set of SQL

> statements to produce the first result set; and

a using module configured to use the first result set in constructing a second set of

> SQL statements to query the child table , wherein

>> the second set of SQL statements comprises SQL statements other than a

>>> second statement that joins the second table to another table, and

>> the querying module and the using module reside in the memory unit.

158.   (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 157 wherein

the second querying module configured to query the child table using the second

> set of SQL statements to produce the second result set.

159.   (**Currently Amended**) The computer system of claim 158 <u>**wherein**</u>

<u>**the third result set depends on the querying the first table and the querying**</u>

> <u>**the second table.**</u>

~~further comprising:~~

~~a returning module configured to return the third result set as a result of~~

> ~~the query of the first and second tables, wherein~~

> ~~the returning module resides in the memory unit.~~

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160.   (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 157 wherein the second set of SQL statements comprises:

a query statement for selecting a record having a value of a foreign key field of the second table equal to a value of a target key field in the first result set.

161.   (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 155 further comprising:

a using module configured to use the first result set to construct a second set of SQL statements to query the second table, wherein

the second set of SQL statements comprises SQL statements other than a second statement that joins the second table to another table, and said using module resides in the memory unit.

162.   (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 155 further comprising:

an obtaining module configured to obtain a search specification for the query of the first and second tables, wherein

the set of SQL statements comprises a query statement to select a record from at least one of the first and second tables if the record satisfies the search specification, and said obtaining module resides in the memory unit.

163.   (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 162 further comprising:

an executing module configured to execute the set of SQL statements to produce the third result set; and

a returning module configured to return the third result set in response to the search specification, wherein

said the executing module and the returning module reside in the memory unit.